



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 8, 2019

CONTACT:

Mayor's Press Office

312.744.3334

press@cityofchicago.org

STATEMENT FROM MAYOR LIGHTFOOT ON TODAY'S CPS/CTU NEGOTIATING SESSION

"Today marked the 49th time that CTU and CPS negotiators met at the bargaining table, and the 142nd day that CTU has still not provided us with a comprehensive counter-proposal. Instead of providing a response to our comprehensive proposal, CTU presented its demands to set the City's affordable housing policy through their collective bargaining agreement, demanding that the City enact CTU's preferred affordable housing policy as part of their contract.

"My administration is committed to addressing Chicago's affordable housing challenges. That's why I appointed the City's first housing commissioner in a decade, and announced a new and transparent plan for distributing Low Income Housing Tax Credits, with more progress to come. The CTU shares much of our vision on affordable housing, and I invite them to engage in the policymaking process with housing providers, advocacy organizations and other stakeholders who must be a part of this important discussion.

"Affordable housing is a critical issue that affects residents across Chicago, and everyone's voices need to be heard during this process. As such, the CTU collective bargaining agreement is not the appropriate place for the City to legislate its affordable housing policy.

"We are a week away from our deadline to resolve this contract and avoid a strike. We need CTU to come to the table with written proposals on the core issues we need to address in order to resolve the contract. Once this contract is resolved, our Department of Housing will continue to work closely with stakeholders—including unions like the CTU—to ensure everyone in all of our communities has access to a safe, affordable, accessible place to live."

###